

BA-226
Saint James
9119 Satyr Hill Road
Parkville
Private

1793

Standing on the east side of Satyr Hill Road, about 1 ½ miles north of the village of Carney, Saint James is a rectangular frame house, the original section of which is built of logs. The log part is at the north end of the present structure, and logs can be seen from the cellar and in the attic. The southern frame section was added at an unknown date. A rear wing was added c. 1935. Seen from the outside, the house does not show its reputed age.

A tract of land called Saint James, across from Small Valley, belonged to Obadiah Towson, brother of William Towson. Obadiah built the log house in this location in 1793, which was later improved. He was buried on the farm in 1797. Towson, the county seat of Baltimore County, derives its name from this family.

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1. STATE COUNTY TOWN STREET NO.	Maryland Baltimore Cabin Satyr Hill Rd. Off Joppa Road	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY BA-227
ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES	Saint James	
	DATE OR PERIOD STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER	
	3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION	OPEN TO PUBLIC
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Tract of land by this name, across from Small Valley, belonged to Obediah Towson, William's brother. He built a house of logs; later improved, and still standing. He was buried on his farm in 1797. Towson, the county seat of Baltimore County derives its name from this family.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

(second HABS report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY March 20, 1968		
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE	Endangered	Interior
Exterior		
NOTE: This house does not appear on Sidney's 1850 map. The house is on O. Towson's tract on Hopkin's 1877 atlas map. --KEK 6/24/82		
	6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER	
	DATE OF RECORD	

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1963)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

AMERICAN HISTORICAL TRUST
MD. HISTORICAL TRUST
ATLANTIC CITY, MD. 21204

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	MARYLAND	
COUNTY	BALTIMORE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

INSTRUCTIONS	1. NAME				
	COMMON:				
	AND/OR HISTORIC:	Saint James			
	2. LOCATION				
	STREET AND NUMBER:	9119 Satyr Hill Rd.			
	CITY OR TOWN:	Parkville,			
	STATE:	Maryland	CODE	COUNTY:	Baltimore
		21234			CODE
	3. MAP REFERENCE				
	SOURCE:	U. S. Geological Survey Towson quadrangle			
SCALE:	1:24,000				
DATE:	1957 ed., photorevised 1966				
4. REQUIREMENTS					
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS					
1. Property boundaries where required.					
2. North arrow.					
3. Latitude and longitude reference.	$39^{\circ}24'42''$ N. lat., $76^{\circ}32'20''$ W. long.				

BCHS No. 226

TOWSON QUAD.
EL. DIST. 9

NAME: SAINT JAMES

OWNER'S NAME & ADDRESS:

Mrs. H. Piercy Taylor
9119 Satyr Hill Rd.
Parkton, Md. 21234

Tel: 823-5051

LOCATION: $39^{\circ}24'42''$ N. lat., $76^{\circ}32'20''$ W. long.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. north-northwest of
 Carney, about 200 ft. east of Satyr
 Hill Rd., and about 0.2 mi. north-
 northeast of its junction with Fro-
 for Lane.

INFORMATION: Building is a rectangular
 frame structure (covered with white
 shingles?), somewhat enlarged from
 the original log house. According to
 J. Stanley Leonhardt whose family
 owned the house and who now
 lives across the road at #9114, the
 log part is now the north end of
 the present structure; logs can be
 seen from cellar and in attic.
 (really logs, with bark? - or hand-
 hewn beams exposed?). South end
 of house is younger, added at un-
 known date. Rear wing added about
 35 yrs. ago by Mr. Leonhardt's father.
 Seen from outside, house does not
 show its reported age (log part of
 building reportedly built by Cbediah
 Towson, brother of William Towson, in
 1773).

House is residence of owner.

According to the Chapman Publishing Co.'s GENEALOGY AND BIOGRAPHY OF LEADING FAMILIES OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE AND BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND (New York & Chicago, 1897), a William Towsen who married Catherine Allen came to this country in 1758. William had three sons: Obadiah who died in 1797; William; and Roland. Obadiah owned Saint James and was buried there. (Mr. Leonhardt says no real cemetery except field stones; others report that one resident (a Leonhardt?) disliked looking at the gravestones and used them for making a walk.)

Obadiah had a son, James W. Towsen who married Sarah Root and died in 1832. (Was this the "Sarah Towsen" mentioned in the 1845 deed now at the Md. Hist. Soc.? (see Small Valley). Mr. Leonhardt says there used to be a window in the house with "James Towsen" scratched on the glass; in an effort to remove the pane to preserve it, the glass was broken: was this the James W. Towsen mentioned above?)

James W. and Sarah (Root) Towsen had six children, one of whom was Obadiah G. Towsen, the main subject of the biography in the Chapman book. He reportedly went into the tobacco business on Gay Street in Baltimore, later inherited a farm near Loch Raven ("Saint James"?), and engaged in the manufacture of lime until he retired in 1887. (He was born Dec. 23, 1825) Obadiah G. Towsen married Lydia Richards of Connecticut and had at least four children Henry; James A.; Charles; and Emory.

The Hopkins Atlas of Baltimore Co. of 1877 shows the property around this house to have been owned by O. Towson.

Seems reasonably clear that this house really is Saint James, but as in the case of Small Valley, the name does not seem to mean much to the most recent residents of the house.

Present owner Mrs. Taylor was a Leonhardt - sister of J. Stanley Leonhardt. Did not talk to her personally - she may have more info. Some info in Balto. Co. Hist. Soc. files submitted by Society member Mrs. Van Noyes Verplanck of 213 Harris Ave., Lutherville; assembled 10-15 years ago.